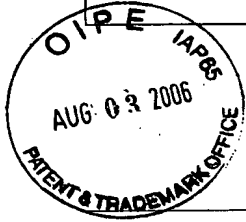


I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: July 31, 2006

Signature

(Raymond Garguilo, Jr.)



Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-437 CIPCIPCIPCIPCON IV  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Errico et al.

Application No.: 10/642,523

Filed: August 15, 2003

For: AXIALLY COMPRESSIBLE ARTIFICIAL  
INTERVERTEBRAL DISC HAVING  
LIMITED ROTATION USING A  
CAPTURED BALL AND SOCKET JOINT  
WITH A SOLID BALL AND RETAINING  
CAP

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: Group Art Unit: 3738  
:  
: Examiner: B. E.  
Pellegrino  
:  
:

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.312

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed June 15, 2006, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.